GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SERVICES

MISSION

To provide a quality service that improves our customers' productivity and decision making process through the use of technology, efficient system configuration, network and database management, customized and acquired applications, and training.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

The GIS team is responsible for coordinating and managing overall countywide GIS operation .It is also responsible for system management, database management, technical support, application development, and training. The GIS team operates under the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement effective since July 1, 1998 and provides service to all City and County departments, and is a group within the City Technology Solutions epartent. Thirty four departments currently have GIS capability and are connected to the GIS databases. They are Public Works, County Attorney, Animal Control, Cooperative Extension Service, County Purchasing, Forest Protection, Information Technology, Register of Deeds, Social Services, City Attorney, City Budget, City Clerk, City Finance, City Manager's Office, City Council, Mayor's Office, Planning, Inspections, Facility Management, Police, Emergency Communication Services, Fire Administration, Solid Waste Management, Environmental Resources, DATA, Parks & Recreation, the Tax Assessor's Office, Public Health, Library, Board of Elections, Sheriff, Fire Marshall, County Engineering, and Soil and Water Conservation.

2002-03 ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Upgraded the Spatial Data Explorer, Internet application, to include additional functionalities and data layers
- Managed the final phase of the countywide topographic mapping project and completed on schedule.
- Worked with Sheriff's Office and Police Department to create a countywide consolidated crime database and developed an intranet application that will allow viewing of the consolidated crime data.
- Re-projected Census 2000 data (Blocks and Block Groups level)
- Assisted Durham Public Schools on site suitability analysis for locating future schools.

- Assisted Department of Social Services with a grant application by geo-coding 1200 or more addresses of Work First participants with children. Provided GISMO training and configured the software to include a new data layer.

2003-04 OBJECTIVES

- Maintain accessibility to the GIS databases at 99%.
- Improve user access to GIS data and decrease the access cost by implementing an intranet application that allows more users easier access to GIS data without purchasing additional GIS software and special programs.
- Continue focusing on providing training to assist users of GIS technology in day-to-day operations.

FY 2003-04 Highlights/Significant Changes

As we continue to support user departments reengineering their operation with GIS technology, we will focus on making information and analysis available to the users in a more economical and efficient way. Highlights for fiscal year 2004 will be the development of data layers to improve emergency response and management and migration of Unix data servers to the Windows based server environment. Funding is not recommended for the first phase of the Orthophotography replacement project, ground control and aerial photography in fiscal year 2004.